

2,000 will watch Rebels take on Wycombe

Reardon the key in Christmas Cracker

TERRY REARDON, for many years a hero at Loakes Park when he wore the blue of Wycombe Wanderers, could be the vital link for Slough Town when the Rebels face their greatest rivals on Saturday, writes Geoff Martin.

Wycombe's recent surge to the top of the Isthmian League Premier Division, and Slough's emergence this season as a championship force, has added fuel to this festive fire and at least 2,000 fans are expected to watch what should be a Christmas cracker.

Important

And it is the experience of men like Reardon, who has seen it all before, and midfielder Morrissey, who has played at many levels, that could be so important in Slough manager Laurie Churchill's pre-match plans.

Saturday's game is the first of two eagerly anticipated clashes between two teams poised to set the championship pace as the New Year gets underway.

It is on New Year's Day that the action switches to Wexham Park, where the biggest attendance of the season, well in excess of 1,000 fans, can be safely predicted.

But that's about all that is sure in either game because matches between the two have never gone to form. If they did

this time, Wycombe would be strongly fancied, but no-one at Slough, least of all Reardon, will want to do the Mid Bucks side any favours.

Weaknesses

It is by no means certain that Reardon will play in both games, or indeed in either, but his 'veteran' status has not prevented him from turning in several fine performances in different positions for Slough this season, and his knowledge of the Wycombe weaknesses will be a considerable asset.

These are matches in which experience and craft often count for more than sheer skill and energy, and consequently I expect manager Churchill to entrust Reardon with an important midfield assignment.

Slough's game against Hendon on Saturday was postponed because of a waterlogged pitch, but last night (Tuesday) the Rebels were hopeful that their home game against Staines would go ahead.

Wycombe have not played for a fortnight and Slough may well make that work to their advantage.



Terry Reardon, whose experience could be invaluable to Slough against Wycombe.

Isthmian League Premier Division (not including Tuesday night's games)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Enfield	29	14	8	7	54	33	50
Wycombe Wanderers	27	14	7	6	51	30	49
Sutton United	26	12	8	6	49	37	44
Harrow Town	26	12	6	8	45	29	42
Dagenham	28	11	9	8	53	43	42
Slough Town	22	11	8	3	31	20	41
Dulwich Hamlet	26	10	10	6	45	37	40
Leytonstone & Ilford	24	11	6	7	44	35	39
Barking	31	10	8	13	42	52	38
Bromley	26	10	7	9	44	44	37
Hayes	25	11	4	10	23	27	37
Woking	29	10	3	16	32	47	33
Boreham Wood	24	8	8	8	31	39	32
Tooting & Mitcham	26	8	5	13	26	35	29
Leatherhead	29	6	11	12	21	32	29
Carshalton	24	9	2	13	32	48	29
Staines Town	26	7	7	12	30	37	28
Walthamstow	26	8	4	14	26	42	28
Hitchin Town	21	7	6	8	29	25	27
Croydon	23	5	12	6	21	21	27
Hendon	23	6	7	10	30	36	25
Harlow Town	24	5	10	9	28	37	25